

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CORETTA SCOTT KING

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 1, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Coretta Scott King, devoted wife, mother, grandmother and civil rights leader, whose courageous mission has left an indelible light of peace and justice visible across our country and around the world. Mrs. King gracefully raised aloft the dreams and legacy of the most prominent visionary for social change in our nation's history, her husband, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Their unified mission of peacefully dismantling the racist foundation of America would change the course of our Nation forever.

Mrs. King's entire life was framed by dignity, courage and an unwavering commitment to social justice and humanitarian causes. She grew up working in the cotton fields of Alabama, where she experienced the harsh reality of racism. Taught by her parents that only a solid education could open the door to freedom and opportunity, Mrs. King focused on her studies and graduated with honors from Antioch College in southern Ohio, one of the first integrated colleges in the country. While a student, she joined the NAACP and became deeply involved in the civil rights movement, foregoing a career in music to carry out the work of peace and justice.

The assassination of Dr. King did not diminish her resolve. She courageously forged ahead on the road to justice, despite the danger inherent in her noble cause. As a young widow with four young children to raise, Mrs. King remained steadfast in her commitment to her children and also unwavering in her determination to continue on the path set by Dr. King. She took up the torch of her late husband, holding it high and dignified, exposing a broken society degraded by racism and injustice and illuminating the reality of peaceful change.

Refined, articulate and reflecting a quiet grace, Mrs. King did not retreat from the movement sparked by Dr. King. She deliberately stepped out into the sharp glare of the public and bravely marched on, leading civil protests where her husband had marched before. She led an unrelenting effort to establish Martin Luther King Jr. Day, an endeavor that took her fifteen years and over six million petitions. Determined to keep Dr. King's legacy alive, Mrs. King founded the King Center in 1968, serving as its president for 26 years.

Armed with a sharp mind, a warm smile and a passion for social change, Mrs. King journeyed around the world, speaking to college and church audiences and meeting with world leaders. Mrs. King championed the rights of the poor and advocated for social and economic justice for women and for the protection and rights of gay men and lesbian women. She marched in protest against racial discrimination across the South and was arrested for protesting apartheid in South Africa.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor, recognition and memory of Coretta Scott King, whose life mission on behalf of human rights has served to raise the collective

conscience of the entire world into the promise of universal freedom from oppression. Mrs. King's brilliant legacy, framed in peace, determination and dignity, will forever resound with the voice of her husband, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.—along our urban streets, across the South and around the world—echoing the ongoing struggle for freedom in a chorus of hope that will someday rise with their words on the dawning of a new day of peace and justice for all.

CONGRATULATING THE GAINESVILLE FUTURE FARMERS OF AMERICA CHAPTER AT THE SOUTHWESTERN EXHIBITION AND LIVESTOCK SHOW IN FORT WORTH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate members of the Gainesville Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter for their opportunity to exhibit livestock at The Southwestern Exhibition and Livestock Show in Fort Worth.

Seven members of the Gainesville FFA Chapter participated in events in late January. Among the youth project exhibited were five lambs and two goats. Marlee Bell also exhibited a first place spring heifer in the Brangus junior heifer show.

The Gainesville FFA chapter has been attending the Fort Worth Stock show for some time now, and they look forward to continuing their participation for years to come.

This is the 110th year for the show, and is billed as "the nation's oldest livestock show." Participating in the show teaches students agricultural principles along with animal husbandry and livestock judging skills.

I extend my sincere congratulations to these the youth of the Gainesville FFA Chapter for their success and participation. I wish them the best of luck in their dedicated pursuit in future opportunities.

COMMEMORATION OF BOB MARLEY'S BIRTHDAY

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay homage to a man who gave a voice to the voiceless first in his native Jamaica and then throughout the world. The legendary reggae singer Bob Marley would have turned 61 on Monday, February 6 and it is appropriate that we pause to recognize the extraordinary impact of his life and work. Not only did Marley define reggae music as we know it today, but he introduced it outside his native land of Jamaica, achieving international superstar status and shaping music on a global scale. His message of freedom and empowerment resonated everywhere and was an inspiration to a generation.

While evolving his sound to encompass rock and African themes, Marley never diluted his

message, underpinning his music with the politics and theology of his Rastafarian beliefs and his personal struggles in Jamaica. He has inspired everyone from Stevie Wonder to The Clash with his lyrics.

His music was a social force, calling for opportunity, justice and freedom and challenging those who sought change to act to achieve it. Throughout his career, he was influenced by the gulf between haves and have-nots, a culture of oppression that was particularly evident in his poverty- and crime-ridden homeland. Reggae's mesmerizing rhythms carried an undeniable signature that rose to the fore of the music scene in the 1970s, largely through the recorded work of Marley and his group the Wailers. Some of his albums, such as *Natty Dread* and *Rastaman Vibration* endure as reggae milestones that gave a voice to the poor of Jamaica and, by extension, the world. Much of his music today aims to uplift the impoverished and powerless, instilling in them a beautiful sense of dignity in their culture, despite the hardships they encountered in their daily lives. In 1978, he received a United Nations Peace Award for his attempts to calm the warring factions of Jamaican politics and played at Zimbabwe's independence celebrations in 1980, where he came to learn that more Zimbabweans knew the lyrics of his song than they did the words of the national anthem.

Marley died prematurely at age 36 in 1981, after doctors discovered a cancerous growth on his foot haphazardly after a soccer game. Despite his death, the heartbeat reggae rhythms of the music that he left behind continue to thrive today. Moreover, Jamaica itself has been transformed by his legacy. Marley was buried on the island with full state honors on May 21, 1981. In a crowning irony, given the reviled status that Rastafarians and their music had once suffered at the hands of the Jamaican government, Marley's pacifist reggae anthem, "One Love," was adapted as a theme song by the Jamaican Tourist Board.

Bob Marley continues to live today in our hearts and minds, as does his music. With anthems such as "Get Up Stand" he continues to fight for those who feel they cannot. With such a vision, Marley continues to be worthy of recognition and remembrance.

TRIBUTE TO TERENCE W. STARZ, MD

HON. MELISSA A. HART

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 8, 2006

Ms. HART. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Terence W. Starz, M.D., who will become the 141st president of the Allegheny County Medical Society on January 28, 2006.

Dr. Starz is an internal medicine physician at University of Pittsburgh Medical Center Presbyterian Hospital. He is board-certified by the American Board of Internal Medicine, with a subspecialty in Rheumatology. He currently serves as a Delegate to the Pennsylvania Medical Society and is a member on the Allegheny County Medical Society Foundation Board.

Over the years Dr. Starz has been influential in the medical field. He was a prominent